Vol. III. Numb. 45.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are Added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by ſome of the Society of GENTLEMEN, Concern'd in the Firſt and Second VOLUME, with the Aſſiſtance of other Ingenious PERSONS.

From Friday July 7th. to Monday July 10th. 1710.

PROPOSALS for Printing the Firſt Volume of the *BRITISH APOLLO* in Octavo, which is now in the Preſs, and will be Publiſh'd in *Michaelmas-Term* next, are to be had at Mr. *Clark*'s Bookſeller in *Birchin-Lane*, near the *Royal-Exchange*, Mr. *Carter*'s at the *Roſe* and *Crown*, in St. *Paul*'s-*Church-Yard*, Mr. *Harbin*'s at the *Roſe* next Door to the *Globe-Tavern* in the *Strand*, near *Charing-Croſs*, and of the Printer hereof, *J. Mayo* over againſt *Water-Lane Fleet-Street*, or of the Men in their Walks.

GENTLEMEN,

Q. *YOUR Ingenious and Judicious Solving ſome ſeeming Inconſiſtencies in* Holy-Scripture, *has Incouraged me to deſire the Solution of the Subſequent Difficulty.*

It is the well known Story in Sacred Writ, *of* Lot *and his two Daughters: Now amongſt others, there are two Difficulties in the ſaid Hiſtory.* 1ſt. *What could induce them to Commit ſo Infamous an Action, ſince they knew that* Abraham *their Kinſman was Alive, out of whoſe Family they might have choſen Huſbands.* 2dly. *The next expreſly tells us, that* Lot *perceived not when they lay down, nor when they roſe up, which to me is the moſt Unaccountable thing I ever heard of, for a Man to get two Sons one Night after another, and yet not remember any thing of the Matter.*

Gentlemen, *Perhaps you may think I delight to Cavil and find Faults in* Holy Scripture, *when there is none at all; but I do Solemnly profeſs there is no Man can have a greater Veneration for thoſe* Sacred Oracles *than my ſelf. If when your Conveniency will permit, you will pleaſe diſtinctly to Anſwer and Reſolve the above Queries, it will be a renewed Obligation, and ſhall always be acknowledg'd as ſuch, By,*

Your Oblig'd Subſcriber, STREPHON.

A. The Book of *Geneſis*, being but a very ſhort *Epitome* of the Hiſtory of the World in the firſt Ages of it, it is ſcarce to be expected but that ſome Difficulties and Obſcurities, may ariſe from that Brevity, with which Matters of Fact are related, which yet, had the Cauſes and Circumſtances of them been more fully Explained, wou'd Vaniſh. We ought therefore to make the ſame equitable allowance for the ſhortneſs of Sacred as well as we do for Profane Hiſtory, and to think that what is wanting in the fulneſs of any Story is abundantly made up by the Credit of the Hiſtorian. Tho' this in general ought to be granted, we think notwithſtanding the Preſent Story of *Lot*'s Inceſt to be Circumſtantially enough related, and clear of the Difficulties with which the Queriſt Charges it. For as to the firſt Objection, it is plain that *Lot* with his two Daughters retired out of *Zoar* into the Cave in the Mountain for Fear of being Corrupted with the Iniquity of that Place, and by what is ſaid *Chap.* 19. *Ver.* 31*ſt.* wherein the Firſt-born Complains, *that there is not a Man in the Earth to come in unto us*, it ſeems as if *Lot* had given them a ſtrict Charge to have no farther Converſation with the reſt of Mankind: Nor does it appear by the Sequel of the Story that he ever removed out of the Cave with them but there Finiſhed his Days. Theſe Things might give his Daughters uneaſy Apprehenſions, as if they were to Live there in Solitude all their Days, and ſo end their Race with their Lives; the preventing of which was by them no doubt looked upon as a Matter of Extream Neceſſity and ſufficient to juſtify their Unnatural and Monſtrous Attempt. They were notwithſtanding very ſenſible of the Odiouſneſs of ſuch a Fact, and that their Father cou'd never be brought to Comply with them while he was in his Senſes, and therefore they made him Drunk even to a Degree of Stupidity before they durſt Practiſe upon him. Why ſhou'd it then be wondred that he was Inſenſible of what he did? And as to what the Queriſt Objects, that they might have choſen

Husbands out of *Abraham*'s Family, it is very probable that before the Commiſſion of this Fact, *Abraham* with his Family had removed out of that Country to *Gerar*, notwithſtanding this his Removal is afterwards mentioned. Or there might be other Reaſons for this which are too Obvious to be Explained.

Q. Gentlemen, *I have for many Years Liv'd in Town (tho' I have a Plentiful Eſtate in the Country, and a Fair Seat upon it) on this Conſideration: That 'tis always obſerv'd, Perſons of the moſt Polite Converſation and Brighteſt Parts, in every Nation, flock to the Court or Metropolis of each Kingdom, by Conſequence 'tis there where a Man may moſt probably Improve himſelf, in all the moſt valuable Qualifications, and may beſt Learn, how to acquire ſuch Conduct, as to acquaint himſelf with Honor, and leave behind him ſuch a Reputable Character, as may diſtinguiſh his, from Common Duſt, and give great Satisfaction to his Poſterity. But alas! the Town is now ſo divided into Factions, who have ſuch different Notions of Things, that it ſeems to me impoſſible for a Man by any Conduct, to ſecure to himſelf any of theſe ends: If he inclines to no Party, he is deſpiſed by all; if to one, he is hated by the other, which ſhou'd it get the Aſcendant, all his beſt Efforts, how ſincerely ſo ever intended, will be expoſed with Infamy. Now except* Apollo, *can inform me, how I may manage my Affairs ſo, that if I cannot be aſſur'd of making an Honorable Exit, I am reſolv'd to retire to the Country, and ſecude my ſelf from all Converſation, except of one particular Friend and my Books, Live unnoted and Die forgotten, rather than endeavor to continue my Memory on ſuch Precarious Terms.*

A. We muſt Confeſs it is a very Difficult thing for a Man at this Juncture, ſo to behave himſelf, as that he may be ſecure of making an Honorable Exit, with a General Applauſe; tho' it may be poſſible, at leaſt ſo to acquit himſelf, as that he may ſecure his Memory from Detraction. The beſt Methods we at Preſent conceive are, *viz.* Look into Hiſtory for Examples of Men, who have come off with the cleareſt Characters, in the Opinion of the beſt Authors of thoſe times, and in ſuch times, where Circumſtances of Affairs, come neareſt to thoſe of the Preſent Times; Conform yourſelf to their Principles, as a Foundation to Build upon, but be not ſo reſtrain'd by them, as not to be ready to quit any of them, on Stronger Reaſons offer'd to you. When you find any one violently Opinionated in any Party, be upon your Guard, and Careful how you ſuck in his Notions, for you may Conclude he is Guilty of ſome Errors, for 'tis impoſſible to be ſtrongly Opinionated and be Wiſe, for a Wiſe Man is always diffident of himſelf. Their Heat is an Enemy to their Improvement, ſince it will not give them leave to ſet things in a right Light: they are ſure they are in the right and 'tis very difficult to convince ſuch they are in the wrong; 'tis a Difficulty next to the Changing their Natures. When you happen to Converſe with ſuch (as indeed moſt Men now are ſuch) firſt endeavor to reduce them to Coolneſs, then offer nothing as your Opinion, but as the Dictates of Reaſon; when you find the leaſt Glimpſe of Reaſon againſt you, be more ready to yeild, than to require Submiſſion on better Evidence on your own ſide Diveſt your *ſelf* abſolutely of your *ſelf*, the better to induce him to do the like. Avoid (tho' with all poſſible Civility) as much as may be any Communication with thoſe, who only follow their Leaders by an Implicite Faith, for all Arguments are loſt on ſuch; nor matters it much, what Judgment they paſs upon you; and you will not find the more inform'd part of Mankind, how much ſoever addicted to a party, to be ſo difficult to be brought to Reaſon. Theſe Obſervations with a ſtrict regard in general to your Morals, will put your Reputation beyond the reach of the moſt Malicious Tongues; For *Virtue* has that force in its ſelf, beſides the Aſſiſtance it may depend upon from Heav'n, that however it may ſeem Oppreſs'd for a while, it always Conquers and generally Triumphs in the end. And 'tis generally to be obſerved that in all Party-Diſputes, one rarely gains any great Aſcendant, 'till they can Muſter up Objections, againſt the Morals of the other; therefore a Man rarely looſes much Honor in any Cauſe, 'till he Cheriſhes Traitors within, to aſſiſt the Enemy without. Retire not then on vain Apprehenſions of what has a bare poſſibility in Nature, leaſt you betray more of Puſillanimity, than Sound Judgment in your Choice.

Q. Gentlemen, *I deſire you would pleaſe to inform me what Books to Read whereby I may be rightly inform'd and have an Impartial Account of every thing Material concerning the late Revolution. And you will Oblige,* Honeſt Gentlemen, *Your Humble Servant and Subſcriber,* &c.

A. We do not know any Book of Note that has been Writ of thoſe Times that has not (at leaſt by by one Party) been Condemned for it's Partiality and Falſe Repreſentations even of Matters of Fact. Abating this Exception, the Tranſactions of thoſe Times are Copiouſly enough Related in the Third Vol. of the Hiſtory of *England*, which the Publick has aſcribed to Dr. *Kennet*.

POEMS.

Q. APOLLO, *in Truth,*
I've been from my youth,
One very much given to Love;
And always have try'd,
Where e'er I apply'd,
That Sweeteſt of Paſſions t' improve.

I have with much Pains,
Obſerv'd all the Strains,
In which it appears in each Breaſt;
Both Nature and Art,
I find bears a part,
And thus it is three ways expreſt.

That part of Mankind,
Of beſt-inform'd Mind,
Bright Thoughts, and of Exquiſite Senſe;
Tart Quarrels and Bites,
Mix with their Delights,
Yet they make to it's Joys, moſt Pretenſe.

The next ſort are theſe
(And ſeem moſt at Eaſe)
Who never in Quarrels are ſeen;
Nor Raptures e'er Taſt,
Which Vaniſh in haſt,
But their Lives are all ſmooth, and Serene.

Another

Another ſort bare,
Fierce Flames for the Fair,
To enjoy to the moſt of their Pow'r;
And when they have done,
Away they are gone,
Nor Care were they Hang'd the next Hour.

Now ſay, Great Apollo,
Whoſe Judgment all follow
In Love, *ſince your Province it is;*
Which of all theſe Lovers,
Moſt Pleaſure diſcovers,
Moſt Happineſs and Trueſt Bliſs?

A. The laſt *Paſſion* muſt
Be call'd, only *Luſt,*
Which holds to *Enjoy* and no longer;
The Joy of the *Brute,*
Nay, theſe, *They* Confute
In their Choice, ſince their *Appetite*'s ſtronger.

The next ne'er Improve,
The Paſſion of *Love,*
Altho' in a Conſtant *Agreeing;*
That State where they feel,
No *Declining*, nor *Zeal,*
Is a Kind of *Inſenſible Being,*

The Firſt Truly Taſt,
Love's Choiceſt Repaſt,
In a Sphere more Extaticly moving;
Their Moments of Joy,
Which never can Cloy,
Surpaſs a whole Age of Dull Loving.

Thoſe Quarrels and Bites,
Add to their Delights,
I'th Pleaſures of be'ng Reconcil'd;
Such ſoft Recantations,
Such Tender Oblations,
Like Balmy Reſt, when we have Toyl'd.

All *Pleaſures* on Earth,
Acknowledg their Birth,
To *Pain*, e'er we highly are pleas'd;
Thus *Hunger* and *Thirſt,*
Our *Appetites* firſt,
Create, e'er with Joy they are eas'd.

Thus *Health* we beſt Taſt,
Upon *Sickneſs* paſt,
And *Plenty*, when *Want* has preceeded;
Th' Enjoyment we gain,
Without any Pain,
But rarely, if ever is heeded.

Who ever in Story,
Bright *Honor* and *Glory,*
T'obtain without *Danger* did think;
And *Love* if not Croſt,
In it ſelf wou'd be loſt,
Or into dull *Lethargy* ſink.

Thus th' *Heav'ns* ſometimes Low'r,
In Clouds and a Show'r,
But when *Phœbus* breaks out again;
All the Air which we meet,
Is ſo Charming and Sweet,
We give thanks for the Clouds and the Rain.

Q. Apollo, *Reſolve me,*
Since nothing you find,
Too Difficult, or too
Obſcure for your Mind:
If Printing, *or* Powder
Prepar'd for the Gun,
Moſt Good, for the Service,
Of Mankind have done:
And which of the two,
Is eſteemed to be;
To Man, the moſt Fatal,
And worſt Enemy.
If this you Reſolve,
May the firſt ever Raiſe
Your Fame, *and the laſt,*
Bellow out your loud Praiſe.

A. The Firſt the beſt Service
Hath always Expreſt,
As by the Effects,
Muſt needs be Confeſt:
By this we the *Arts*
And the *Sciences* Learn,
And all the *Arcana*
Of *Nature* diſcern:
Religion by this,
Does open our Eyes,
The World too by this,
We are Taught to deſpiſe:
Reſults of Deep *Learning*,
Are Cheaply by this,
Reduc'd to our view,
And the Methods to Bliſs:
Of Ancienter Birth too,
It is than the other,
And all its Effects,
Are carried further.
This far more Miſcheivous,
We muſt too allow,
Since from it, Effects far,
More Fatally flow.
All Hereſies creep by this
Into the World,
And all the Diſorders,
About it are Hurl'd:

All

All Factions Fomented
By this in the State;
And this ſpreads abroad,
All the Seeds of Debate.
The laſt it's moſt dreadful
Effects always draws,
From this, as it's firſt,
And Principal Cauſe.
Diſputes and Diſtractions,
Which this firſt Occaſions,
Make way for the other,
To bring Deſolations:
Thus this when right us'd,
Is the Nobleſt of Friends,
But when 'tis abus'd,
Has the moſt Fatal Ends.

☞ Any Perſon may have the *Index* to the Second Volume of the *Britiſh Apollo*, alſo whole Sets Bound or Unbound, and Single Sheets to make up Sets of the ſaid Volume, of the Men in their Walks, or of *J. Mayo*, over againſt *Water-Lane, Fleet-Street*.

SIR,

THE Letters from Oſtend, July the 14th. Adviſe, that on the 12th Inſtant, the Confederate Army Marched from Wimy that Morning in 4 Columns, and the Right advanced to Villers Bruſlain, betweeu the Scource of the Scarpe and the Little River Lave; That the Mareſchal de Villars made the ſame Day (being the 12th) another Motion and came nearer Arras, ſending 8 Squadrons over the Scarpe to obſerve the Motions of the Allies; That the Princes of Savoy and Marlborough have their Quarters at Villers Bruſlain; That the Mareſchal de Villars having Reinforc'd his Army with the Garriſons of Conde, Valenciennes and other Places on that Place, is come to Encamp in his New Lines near Arras, which is a Poſt wherein he cannot be Attackt; That Princes of Savoy and Marlborough have thereupon thought fit to Beſiege Bethune, and the Troops deſign'd for the ſame are to March to Morrow. They Conſiſt of 25 Battalions Commanded by the Generals, Schuylemberg and Fagel, and 18 Squadrons Commanded by Lieutenant General Wood; and that Strong Parties are ſent into Boulonnois and Picardy to Force thoſe Countries to Pay the Contributions Demanded of them. The Advices from the Hague, July the 15th, are that 19 Eaſt-India Ships homeward Bound are arrived in the Texel with 5 Engliſh, viz. The Kent, Heathcot, Northumberland, Herne and Stretham, all Richly Laden, and that an Expreſs from the Army has brought Advice that Bethune was that Day to be Inveſted.

The Letters from Spithead, Adviſe that on the 3d Inſtant arrived there Her Majeſty's Ships, Lancaſter and Yarmouth fro Plymouth, having on Board, 7 Companies of Lieutenant General Seymour's Regiment; That on the 4th came in there, my Lord Marquiſs of Camarthen in the Royal Ann Galley with the Swallow's Prize, and two Swedes his Lo[illegible]ſhip has brought in, Laden with Oyl, Cochinele, and ſeveral Cheſts of M[illegible]ney from Cadiz, upon Suſpicion of their being French Effects, and Bound to France.

Which is all from Yours, &c.

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